

cation standards, we can make sure all our children have the education they need to seize these opportunities. Without them, our children will continue to pay for our own low expectations and our own limited vision for them. Our children, our schools, our future are far too important to be anything less than world class. Let us move forward into the 21st century with high standards, and make sure we meet them.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 6:04 p.m. on August 29 at a private residence at Martha's Vineyard, MA, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 30.

**Remarks in a Telephone
Conversation With the WNBA
Champion Houston Comets From
Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts**

August 30, 1997

Coach Van Chancellor. Mr. President?

The President. Coach, congratulations.

Coach Chancellor. Well, thank you very much. You know, we're from neighboring States. I'm a Mississippi boy.

The President. You are?

Coach Chancellor. Yes, I am.

The President. Well, double congratulations.

Coach Chancellor. Well, thank you very much.

The President. I'll tell you what, I've followed the season this year. I've watched several games on television. I've really enjoyed it, and I had a chance to get to know some of the players in the league when I went running with the Women's Olympic Team a couple of years ago, and I think it's just been a great thing. I hope it'll be a success and go forward, and you had a great season and a great team, and you had a good game to-night.

Coach Chancellor. Well, thank you very much. I do appreciate you taking the time to call our locker room. That means a lot to the women of this team and to this coaching staff.

The President. Can you hear me?

Coach Chancellor. Yes, I can hear you.

The President. We're on a cell phone, but I think we're doing all right. I can hear you fine.

Coach Chancellor. Yes. I do appreciate your support of women's athletics in general.

The President. Well, I'm strongly supportive of it, and I hope that—like I said, I want you to stay with it, and I'll be supporting you all the way, and congratulate the players for me.

Coach Chancellor. I will. They're all in the dressing room, and they will be honored that you have called us.

The President. Cynthia had a great game, and any of us who has ever been through a childbirth were awful impressed when Sheryl Swoopes came back to play so quickly.

Coach Chancellor. Yes. I'm amazed that she was able to have a child and come back and play for us. She just had some great games. This has just been a total team effort for us.

The President. Yes. Well, give them my best, and I hope to see you up here someday pretty soon.

Coach Chancellor. Okay. I would love to come up there.

The President. Thank you, Van.

Coach Chancellor. And thank you very much for calling us. I'm very honored.

The President. Bye-bye.

NOTE: The President spoke by satellite at 6:50 p.m. from a private residence. In his remarks, he referred to players Cynthia Cooper, and Sheryl Swoopes, Houston Comets.

**Remarks in a Telephone
Conversation With the WNBA
Second Place New York Liberty
From Martha's Vineyard**

August 30, 1997

The President. Hello?

Ms. Maureen Coyle. We have a couple of people here who want to say hi to you.

The President. Oh, great. Congratulations on your season.

Team members. Thank you!

The President. I can't believe you're all there.

Ms. Coyle. Our head coach, Nancy Darsch, wanted to say hey to you.

The President. Great.

Coach Nancy Darsch. Hey, Mr. President, how are you?

The President. I'm fine, Coach. Congratulations on your season.

Coach Darsch. Well, thank you. We met this past fall at Ohio State, and I'm glad to say that I've moved on, taken this team to the WNBA championships, and I'm jealous of you being on Martha's Vineyard, my home State.

The President. Well, it's beautiful up here, and I tell you, I was really pleased with the way your first season worked out. I saw a lot of the games on television and tried to keep up with you, and I hope that there's a bright future ahead for it. I'm really enthusiastic about it, and I'm very pleased about all that you and all your players have done to keep it going.

Coach Darsch. Well, thank you very much. We're very happy that you've followed us and very pleased that you have been able to reach us here tonight.

The President. What are you doing? Are you having a party somewhere?

Team members. Yes!

Coach Darsch. We are having a celebration of our season. We're very proud of the way that we've played this season and of the WNBA inaugural season and also the fact that we all kind of separate here in the near future. So we're having a little get-together, and probably someone here that you are very well familiar with, Teresa Weatherspoon, as well as Rebecca Lobo, would like to say hello to you.

The President. Yes, I know them both. [Laughter]

Ms. Teresa Weatherspoon. What's happening, Mr. President? [Laughter]

The President. Well, I wish——

Ms. Weatherspoon. This is Teresa Weatherspoon talking to you.

The President. I wish I were there with you. How are you doing?

Ms. Weatherspoon. I'm doing fine. We're doing much better. We're enjoying ourselves and just happy to be able to say hello to you.

The President. Well, I'm proud of your season. I know that you're feeling good, and I think that you've really got the interest of the country going.

Ms. Weatherspoon. We're trying. We're trying to be positive role models for young ladies, even for the younger guys. Hopefully, we've done some positive things to somehow, some way have younger girls to want to be like one of us.

The President. I think you have. And you've taught a lot of people a lot about defense. [Laughter] I'll tell you, the next time——

Ms. Kym Hampton. Mr. President, I'm Kym Hampton, the other president, and you've been doing your homework, haven't you? [Laughter]

The President. I watch you all on television. I watch you on television.

Ms. Hampton. Okay. Well, you know, I can teach them a little bit about defense; you just continue to defend our little country here there, you know?

The President. I'll do it. You've got a deal.

Ms. Hampton. Well, I appreciate talking to you. Here's Rebecca Lobo.

The President. Thanks, Kym.

Ms. Rebecca Lobo. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. Hey, Rebecca. How are you?

Ms. Lobo. Great. How are you doing?

The President. I'm okay.

Ms. Lobo. Thank you very much for taking time out to speak with us.

The President. Well, I'm really pleased. I hope you're pleased with your first season, and I hope it continues, because I thought it was great. I watched several of the games on television from the White House, and I thought they were exciting and good, and I think you've got a real future.

Ms. Lobo. Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

Ms. Weatherspoon. Can I say one more thing?

The President. Sure.

Ms. Weatherspoon. Even though we didn't win it all and, you know, normally the winners get the visitation there at your place, can we still come? [Laughter]

The President. Yes. You bet. If you want——

Ms. Weatherspoon. Because in our own right we're still champions.

The President. [*Inaudible*—if you want to come down here and have a tour, I'd be glad to have you down here.

Ms. Weatherspoon. We're coming! [*Laughter*]

The President. All right.

Team member. You are one of a kind, aren't you, honey? [*Laughter*]

Ms. Coyle. Mr. President, This is Maureen Coyle again. I'm actually going to hold your scheduling people to that.

The President. All right. We'll do it. We'll set up a tour.

Ms. Coyle. Thank you very much.

Team. Thank you.

The President. Goodbye. Thanks.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:53 p.m. from a private residence. Maureen Coyle is director of public relations, New York Liberty.

Remarks on the Death of Princess Diana and an Exchange With Reporters in Martha's Vineyard August 31, 1997

The President. Good morning. Let me say again how very sad Hillary and I are about the terrible accident that has taken the life of Princess Diana and the others who were with her. We liked her very much. We admired her work for children, for people with AIDS, for the cause of ending the scourge of landmines in the world, and for her love for her children, William and Harry.

I know that this is a very difficult time for millions of people in the United Kingdom who are deeply shocked and grieving, and the American people send their condolences to all of them. We value their friendship, and we understand this great and painful experience.

For myself, I will always be glad that I knew the Princess and always think of her in very strong and positive terms, as will Hillary, and we can only hope that her work will go forward and that everyone who can, will support her two fine sons and help them to have the life and the future that she would want.

Thank you.

Q. Mr. President, you, yourself, on this vacation have been subject to intrusive photog-

raphers. Is there a lesson in this tragedy for the press? Should we back off?

The President. I think it is better right now if we let a little time pass and let this event and the people involved be honored and grieved, and then we'll have time to think about that and maybe make a better judgment. I think it's better for me not to say anything until this moment has received its due respect.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:20 a.m. at the press pool holding area.

Remarks to Oak Bluffs School Teachers in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts September 3, 1997

The President. Thank you very much, Dr. Cash, Mr. Binney, all the teachers who are here. I am delighted to have this chance to come by and visit with you. I know I'm on vacation, but when school starts, if I don't participate in some start-of-school event—[*laughter*—I begin to have a nervous twitch, and I—[*laughter*—and I was delighted to be invited to come by and spend a few moments with you.

Let me begin by saying, as you know, our family has been on vacation here now for a little over 2 weeks, and we have until the end of this week. This is the longest time we've been away together in a very long time, and it's been a wonderful opportunity for us. We love it here. And it's especially important this year because this is the last family vacation we'll have before our daughter begins her next big educational adventure. So it's been great.

You know, every start of a school year is special because, as you well know, teachers come together with a new sense of dedication and energy and students show up wide-eyed in anticipation and parents pour all their hopes into what they hope will come out of the next year, that they're all truly wonderful. And I think they reflect the central premise of what you do for a living, and that is that our most important common enterprise as a people is clearly education. It's necessary not only for young people to grow up and be